YES, THIS IS WHAT YOUR MAN WANTS
GIFT GUIDE {pages 07-13}

UNCOVERING AMY'S 'HIDDEN TREASURES'
MUSIC {page 16}

METRO MAGIC
HOLIDAY TOY DRIVE
TAKE PART TODAY {page 04}

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#1 DAILY NEWSPAPER IN CENTER CITY

PHILADELPHIA

Thursday, December 1, 2011

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Min 32°

Wiped clean of people ... for bulldozers

Construction firm to sign final contract now that police have ended occupation 52 arrests later, Occupiers still marching {page 02}

▶ After police cleared the last remnants of Occupy Philly members, sanitation workers cleaned out all signs of the two-month tent city.

RICARD LARMA/METRO

News

Suit links Sandusky to Philly

Civil filing against former Penn State coach alleges over 100 attacks Victim claims one incident in city {page 04}

Feel like gettin' into a Trestle?

Go-go dancers, classic cocktails and a bad reputation all get a little overhaul {page 19}

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Occupy's ouster gives plaza to contractor

Builder to sign final contract now that Dilworth is empty ◗ $50 million makeover to begin today or tomorrow ◗ City: Contract was never in jeopardy

Quoted

"The renovations to Dilworth Plaza will make major enhancements to public transit and provide a new, vibrant public space on the west side of City Hall."
CENTER CITY DISTRICT IN A STATEMENT YESTERDAY

"Dilworth Plaza is now closed to the public. It is a construction site and we anticipate that work to start very shortly."
MAYOR MICHAEL NUTTER, HOURS AFTER THE EVICTION TOOK PLACE

"They signed a letter of intent and are dealing with all of the hoops they have to jump through to get a contract that has a complex funding stream including federal, state and philanthropic money."
CITY SPOKESMAN MARK MCDONALD, ON KEATING

Mayor Michael Nutter said that yesterday morning's police raid of Occupy Philly's City Hall encampment had been in the works for weeks, but some officials close to the $50 million Dilworth Plaza renovation said that project's contractor was beginning to balk at signing the actual construction contract until the Occupiers finally left.

The Daniel J. Keating Company signed a letter of intent in mid-November after being awarded the project by the Center City District, but still had not signed the contract by yesterday morning.

"That would make sense, if I were Keating, because there's a timeline on your contract. Once you sign it, you have so many days before you have damages," said Pat Gillespie, business manager of the Building Trades Council. "So if he signs, all of the sudden, the people occupying the space become his problem. And before he signed, he'd want the people out of there."

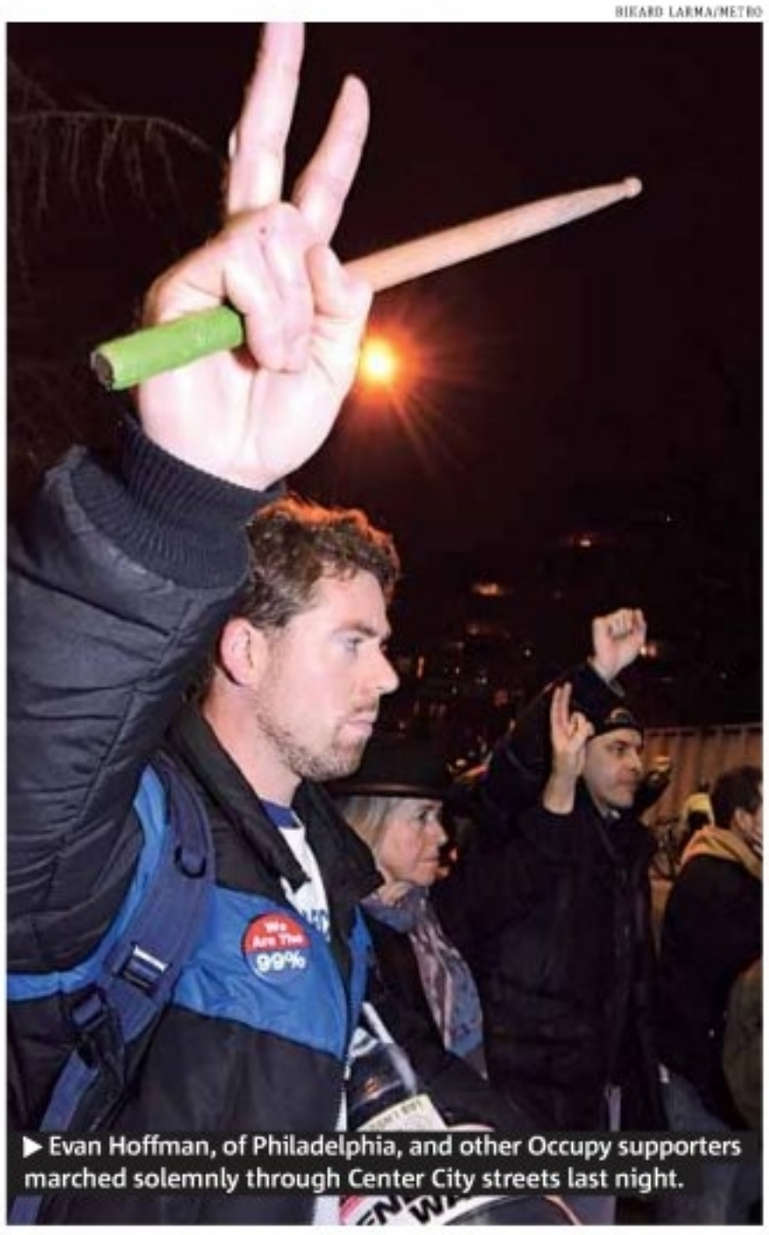
Gillespie said he expected Keating would sign the construction contract as soon as yesterday, hours after police finally evicted the Occupiers. The Center City District declined to comment on whether the Occupiers held up the contract, but sent out a press release that construction on Dilworth Plaza will begin today or tomorrow.

Nutter's spokesman denied any correlation between the timing of the raid and called the claims "total [nonsense]."

"Keating's actions had nothing to do with Occupy Philly," he said. "They were and they are moving forward."

ALEX WIGGLESWORTH
awigglesworth@metro.us

RICARD LARMA/METRO



▶ Evan Hoffman, of Philadelphia, and other Occupy supporters marched solemnly through Center City streets last night.

Only one arrest at Dilworth

Fifty-two Occupy Philly members were arrested after police raided their Dilworth Plaza encampment early yesterday morning, though only one person was arrested at the actual camp site.

They are charged with conspiracy, failure to disperse and obstruction. Gregory Harris, 29, who worked for Occupy's donation and resources committee, is also charged with assault on an officer.

All were still waiting to be arraigned as of late yesterday.

According to authorities, one arrest occurred at 1:55 at Dilworth, five arrests were at 15th and Market at 2:55 a.m., one at Broad and Race at 4:07 a.m. and 45 more at 15th and Hamilton at 6:30 a.m.

GET MORE PHILADELPHIA NEWS
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In the news

Robber feigns Occupier

A thief talked his way into a Havertown woman's home by claiming to be a member of Occupy Philly yesterday morning, then robbed her. The "soft spoken" suspect entered the victim's home on Joann Circle around 10 a.m. and ordered her to a bedroom, where he took cash, police said. METRO/AW

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DA gets money to battle gambling

PHILADELPHIA. The district attorney's office has received a $150,000 grant from the state Gaming Control Board to prosecute illegal gambling activity.

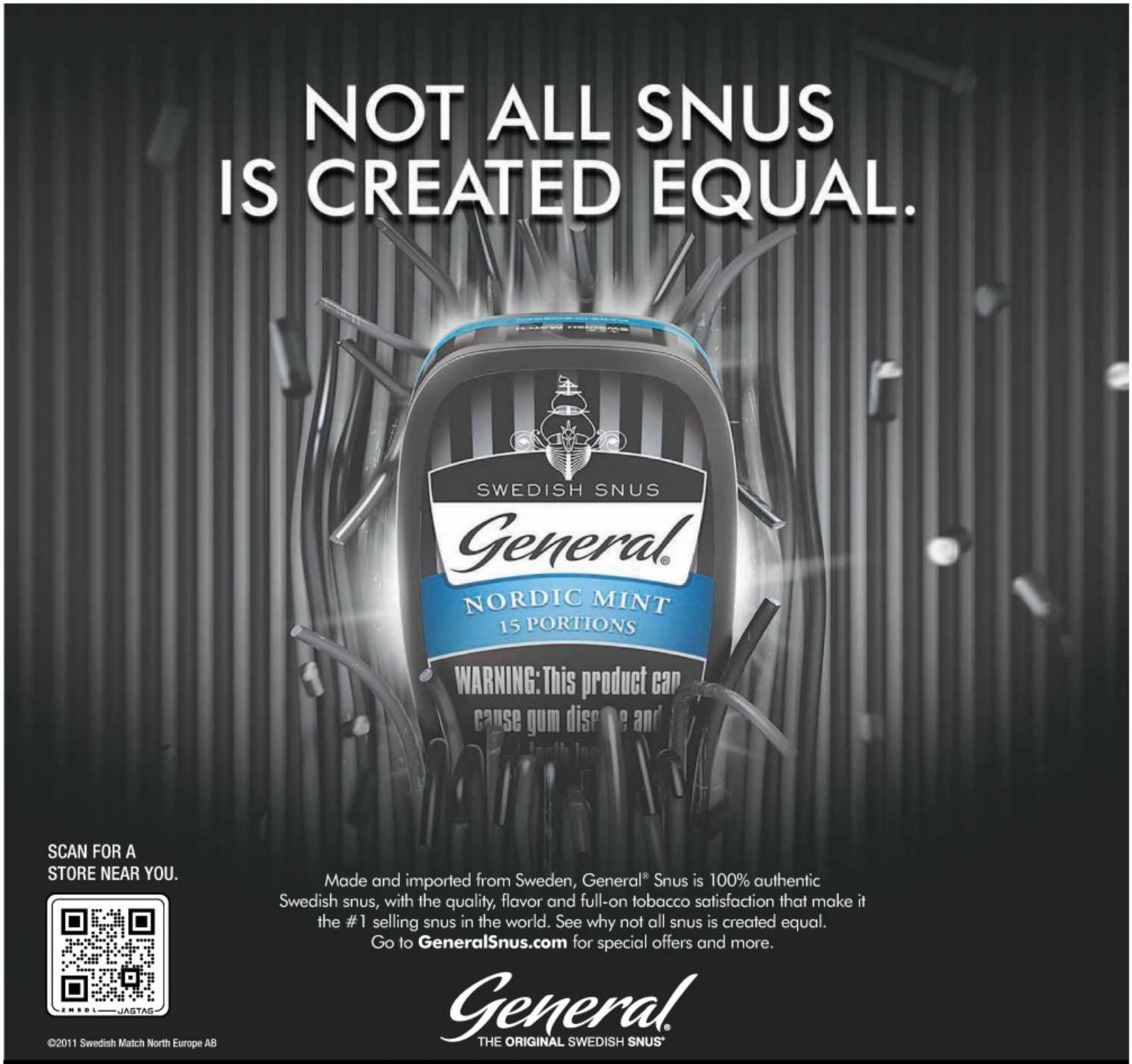
The grant will maintain the DA's Gaming Control Task Force, which was created in 2008 with a $250,000 grant from the board. The funding is part of money allocated each year for law enforcement from gaming revenue at the state's 10 casinos.

Officials said the task force has prosecuted 10 cases so far and expects more as legalized gaming expands. Initially focused on illegal video and electronic gaming machines, the task force has evolved to prosecute all unlawful gambling. METRO/SDL

Fraud alleged at sheriff's

PHILADELPHIA. Four people have been charged in an alleged scheme to defraud the Philadelphia Sheriff's Office of more than $500,000.

Authorities claim that Richard Bell, who worked in the accounting department of the sheriff's office, wrote checks to unauthorized people and companies between 2007 and 2010 and then divided the proceeds. Bell is also accused of helping someone purchase a property for only 10 percent of the bid price and charging and receiving a fee from the purchaser. METRO/SDL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Lawsuit: Boy threatened by Sandusky in Philly

First civil lawsuit against former Penn State coach alleging 100 abuses filed yesterday ◗ Victim says one incident from 1990s occurred in city

Another person who claims he was sexually abused by Jerry Sandusky more than 100 times as a victim has come forward and filed the first civil suit against the disgraced former Penn State assistant football coach.

The alleged victim, who is only identified as John Doe A, claims he met Sandusky in 1992 when he was 10 years old through Second Mile, the charitable organization Sandusky founded, according to the suit filed yesterday in Philadelphia Common Pleas Court. The abuse allegedly occurred between 1992 and 1996 in several places, including Sandusky's home, the Penn State locker room, during a Penn State bowl game trip and in Philadelphia.

The alleged victim, who was not among the eight victims mentioned in the grand jury report, claims he hadn't told anyone about the abuse until after the media reported the allegations against Sandusky.

He claims the coach threatened him and his family during an incident in Philadelphia.

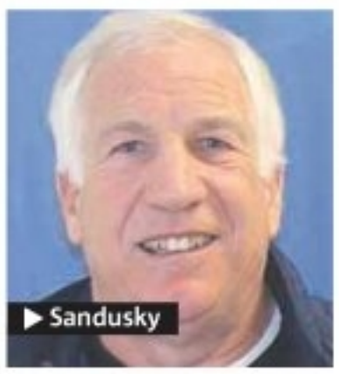
"There was some resistance, and that's what led to the threat," said attorney Jeff Anderson, who is representing the alleged victim and has a history of representing child sex abuse victims against the Catholic Church.

The suit also names Penn State University and Second Mile as defendants.

Sandusky was charged last month with assaulting eight boys over a 15-year period. His attorney, Joseph Amendola, could not be immediately reached for comment.

SOLOMON D. LEACH
sleach@metro.us

Still 'hurting'


▶ Sandusky

Anderson released a statement on behalf of his client, now 29 years old.

▶ "I am hurting and have been for a long time because of what happened, but feel now even more tormented that I have learned of so many other kids were abused after me," part of the statement said.

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Embattled Cain presses ahead with presidential hopes

- Says accusation of affair is 'character assassination'
- Denies allegations but is reassessing campaign

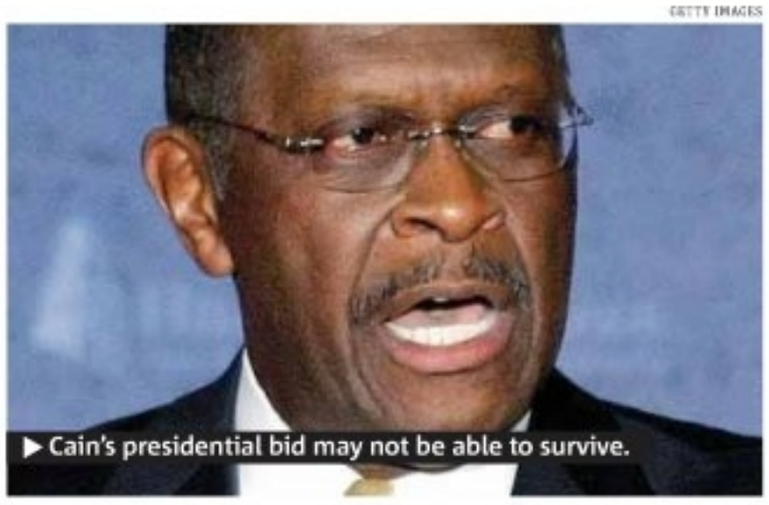
Republican Herman Cain plowed ahead with his struggling presidential campaign yesterday, vowing he would not be pushed out of the race by allegations of an extramarital affair and calling the charges "character assassination."

At two campaign stops in Ohio, Cain said his supporters were sticking with him despite the latest controversy and accused his critics of trying to bring down his upstart White House bid.

"They want you to believe that with enough character assassination on me that I will drop out," Cain said in Dayton, drawing a chorus of "boo" and shouts of "no" from the crowd.

"One of the reasons they want to try and shoot me down and tear me down is because of the strength of my message," he said.

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Cain's presidential bid may not be able to survive.

"It's over for Cain. ... I don't see how you come back from this."
REPUBLICAN STRATEGIST RICH GALEN

Earlier, in West Chester, Ohio, he said critics were trying to end his campaign, but added: "I don't believe that America is going to let that happen."

Cain, 65, denies he had an affair with Atlanta businesswoman Ginger White, who claims their 13-year, on-and-off relationship began in the mid-1990s. But he says he is reassessing the viability of his campaign.

"We are reassessing as we speak," Cain said, adding he would decide in the next few days whether to continue his bid to be the Republican challenger next year to President Barack Obama. REUTERS

Good for them

If Herman Cain departed from the presidential campaign, Newt Gingrich and Mitt Romney would benefit most, according to an analysis. Support for Romney and Gingrich would rise by 3 percentage points each, against the 1- or 2-point bumps. The shift would not reorder the standings, with Gingrich remaining in first and Romney second.

Biden: Pullout brings new phase with Iraq

BAGHDAD. Vice President Joe Biden said yesterday the U.S. troop withdrawal from Iraq by the end of the year opened a new phase in relations between the two countries, including a robust security partnership.

The remaining 13,000 U.S. troops in Iraq are scheduled to leave by the end of the year when a bilateral security pact expires, nearly nine years after the U.S. invasion that ousted dictator Saddam Hussein.

"We are embarking on a new ... and a comprehensive relationship between the United States and Iraq as sovereign partners," Biden said. REUTERS

metro MAN AND WOMAN OF THE YEAR 2011

Jennifer Lopez, Eminem and Hillary Clinton yesterday received their first nominations in the 2012 Metro Man and Woman of the Year event.

And Kris Lima of Boston became the first person to nominate Steve Jobs. "The outpouring when he passed and the impact he has had, and continues to have, on all of us, makes him the obvious choice," said Kris.

Send your nominations through Dec. 9 along with a short explanation to **mwoty@metro.us**.

US wants to know about cyber threats

The U.S. government and companies would be encouraged to share information about cybersecurity threats and hacker attacks under legislation unveiled by House Intelligence Committee Chairman Mike Rogers.

The measure would shield companies from lawsuits and public disclosure requirements when they inform federal agencies about their security vulnerabilities and the type of cyber attacks they experienced, Rogers, a Michigan Republican, said yesterday.

"There is an economic cyberwar going on today against U.S. companies," Rogers said in a statement. "Economic predators, including nation-states, are blatantly stealing business secrets and innovation from private companies. This cybersecurity bill goes a long way in helping American businesses better protect their networks and their intellectual property."

U.S. lawmakers have increased scrutiny of network security in the wake of hacking incidents at companies including Sony and Citigroup. The National Counterintelligence Executive said this month that hackers and illicit programmers in China and Russia are pursuing American industrial secrets, jeopardizing an estimated $398 billion in U.S. research. BLOOMBERG

JIM WATSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

White House. Christmas

▶ The official tree is decorated with framed military medals and handmade holiday cards created by military children living on bases around the world.

Beginning to look a lot like Christmas

First lady Michelle Obama welcomed military families to the White House for the first viewing of the 2011 White House Christmas decoration. The decorations' theme, 'Shine Give, Share,' runs through the White House with a 400-pound White House Gingerbread House and 37 Christmas trees, including the official 18-foot, 6-inch balsam fir tree in the Blue Room that honors Blue Star military families.

Creative types more likely to cheat

Consider yourself creative? Then you're also more likely to cheat, according to a new study by Harvard University's Business School.

"In our research, we find that both a creative personality and being in a creative mind set help people resolve the conflict more easily and give into the temptation to cheat," says Associate Professor of Business Administration Francesca Gino, co-author of the study. "In fact, creativity allows people to come up with many good reasons why their unethical actions are not so bad after all — they rationalize them." METRO

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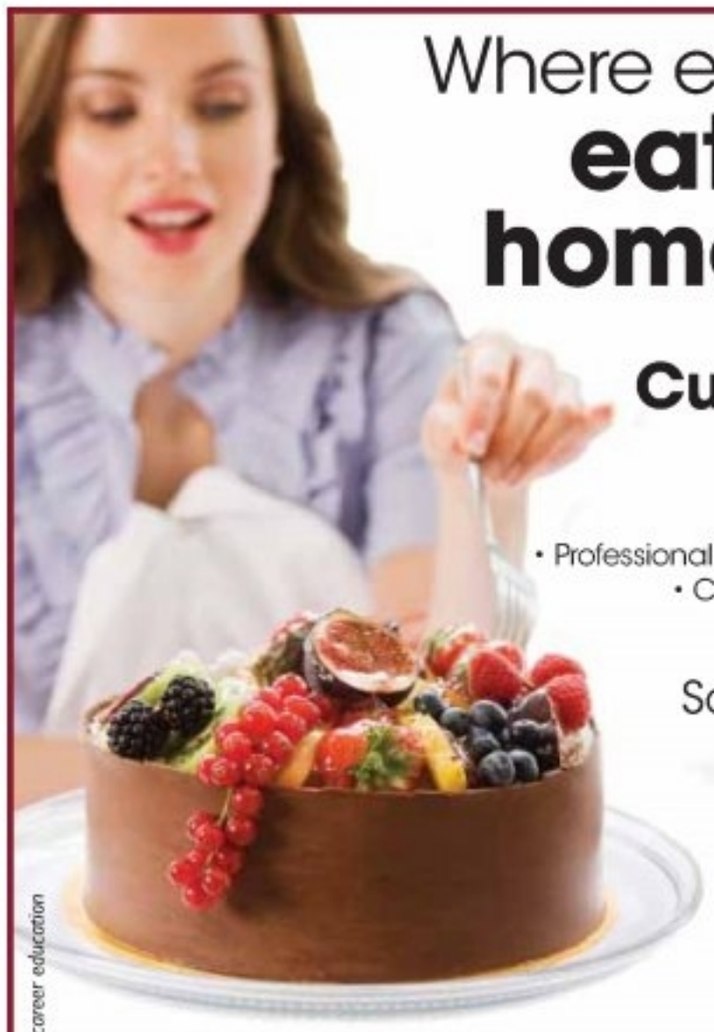

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▶ Protestors are marking their calendars for Bank transfer Day on Dec. 11.

Protestors zero in on Dec. 11 as day to switch credit load

Hot on the heels of Bank Transfer Day, in which a disgruntled Bank of America customer encouraged people to transfer their accounts from major banks to local banks and credit unions, comes Dec. 11's Balance Transfer Day — which has credit cards in the crosshairs.

The objective of the movement is to get credit card holders to transfer their outstanding debts from high-interest credit cards to cards with zero-interest rates and zero-balance-transfer fees issued by credit unions and small, community banks.

"We are not speaking for abolishing interest rates on credit cards, we merely feel that it would be fair if they could be a little lower than today's average, which is around 16 percent, especially since we bailed out those banks with our own money in 2008," organizers say on their Facebook page.

"Banks receive millions ... from the federal government at interest rates as low as 0%. ... Yet, we the consumers are charged costly fees and interest rates."
BALANCE TRANSFER DAY STATEMENT ON FACEBOOK

The main issue that organizers want to bring to light is how banks and credit card providers lure customers with introductory zero-interest rates offers that end in six months to a year. After the promotion expires, banks "are allowed to charge any interest rate they see profitable," organizers say.

Another option is to transfer a portion of your debt to credit card with a zero percent APR, organizers say. Even if the impact is temporary, the hope is that there will be long-term effects in getting better terms and conditions for customers struggling in tough economic times. **MAINSTREET.COM**

EU money chief says 10 days till ruin

Europe faces a crucial 10 days to save the euro zone after agreeing to ramp up the firepower of its bailout fund but acknowledging it may have to turn to the International Monetary Fund for more help to avert financial disaster.

"We are now entering the critical period of 10 days to complete and conclude the crisis response of the European Union," Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner Olli Rehn .

Euro zone ministers agreed on Tuesday night on detailed plans to leverage the European Financial Stability Mechanism, but could not say by how much. **REUTERS**

Private sector adds most jobs

Companies created the most jobs in nearly a year in November, adding to cautious optimism that the country's battered labor market is working its way toward healing.

Better-than-expected housing and regional factory data released yesterday reinforced the view that the economy should avoid recession, though growth is unlikely to be brisk. **REUTERS**

gift guide

Gifts for him

Man up and buy him one of these

He might not like your taste in movies, but these gifts are sure to earn rave reviews this year

1. It gets cold out there when he's playing Paul Bunyan in the woods. **L.L.Bean Two-layer Union Suit, $55,** www.llbean.com

2. Bald? Fashion fade? Keep his head protected with **Jack Spade**'s 100-percent wool, hand-knit **Alpine Hat. $145,** www.jackspade.com

3. You can steal these. **Richer Poorer Socks, $12 each or $30 for three pairs,** www.richer-poorer.com

4. Every sharp man needs a trench in his wardrobe. **Uniqlo +JBlock Tech Half Coat, $200,** www.uniqlo.com

5. Here's the start to the perfect cozy outfit. **Men's Striped Crew Neck Pullover, $20; Men's Shawl-collar Cardigan, $70,** www.oldnavy.com

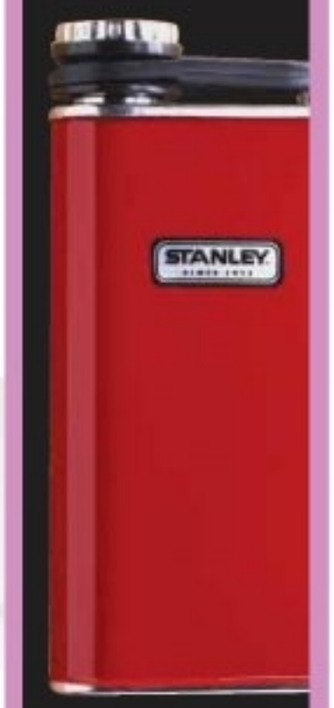
6. Add some wrist candy. **Brera Orologi for Carlos Campos, $695,** www.carlos campos.com

7. You didn't splurge on boots, but these laces will keep him looking dapper. **hook + ALBERT laces, $14,** www.hookand albert.com

Read more on page 08

For his pocket

The handsome Stanley flask now comes in red. We'll drink to that. $24, www.restoration hardware.com



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Tune into the CBS Early Show at 7am for letter count updates to Santa throughout the Holidays.
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gift guide

Gifts for him (continued)

1. He has no excuse not to get in touch. This handy charger refuels up to four devices simultaneously. **Roll-up travel charger, $50, www.restoration hardware.com**

2. This software, created by a team of neuroscientists, helps exercise brain muscles and counteracts all the time he spends watching SPIKE TV. We'll spend on that. **Pro Mental Coach, $140, www.promentalcoach.com**

3. An energy-efficient house equals one proud dad. The Modlet helps reduce the electricity consumed by appliances and saves 10-20 percent on electric bills. **ThinkEco Modlet, $50, www.thinkeco.com**

4. Your surfer can hang ten anywhere. Quicksilver's award-winning **Moondak watch** comes with 15 years of pre-programmed tide data for 200 spots around the world. **$85, www.quiksilver.com**

5. Cleanse his personal space of dust, germs and the smell of Doritos with Sharp's new air purifier. **Sharp IG-A10U, $299, www.sharpusa.com**

6. This mobile scanner (aka his new office secretary) can digitally scan and file receipts, business cards and other documents. The software organizes key information. **The Neat Company NeatReceipts, $150, www.neat.com**

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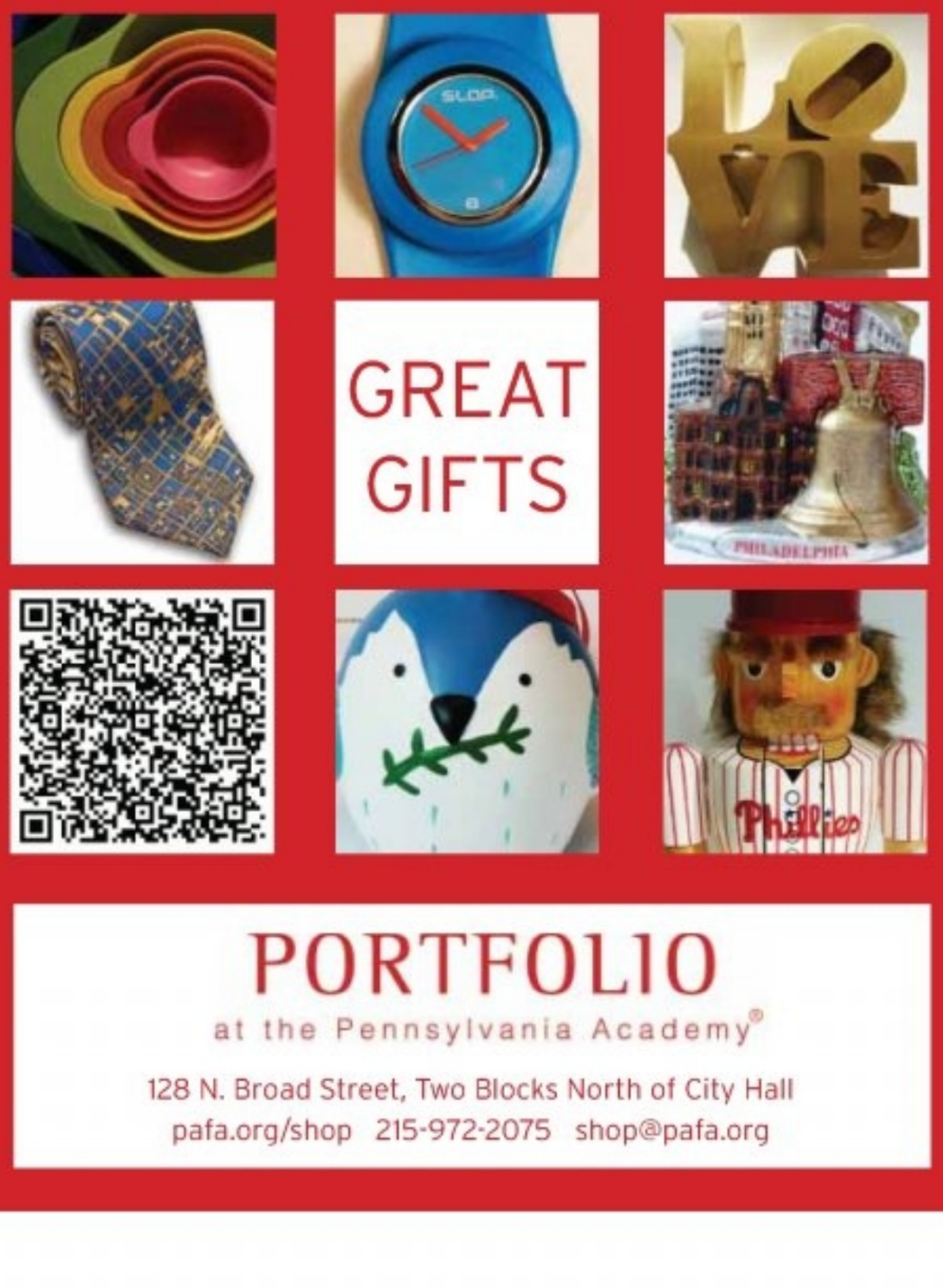

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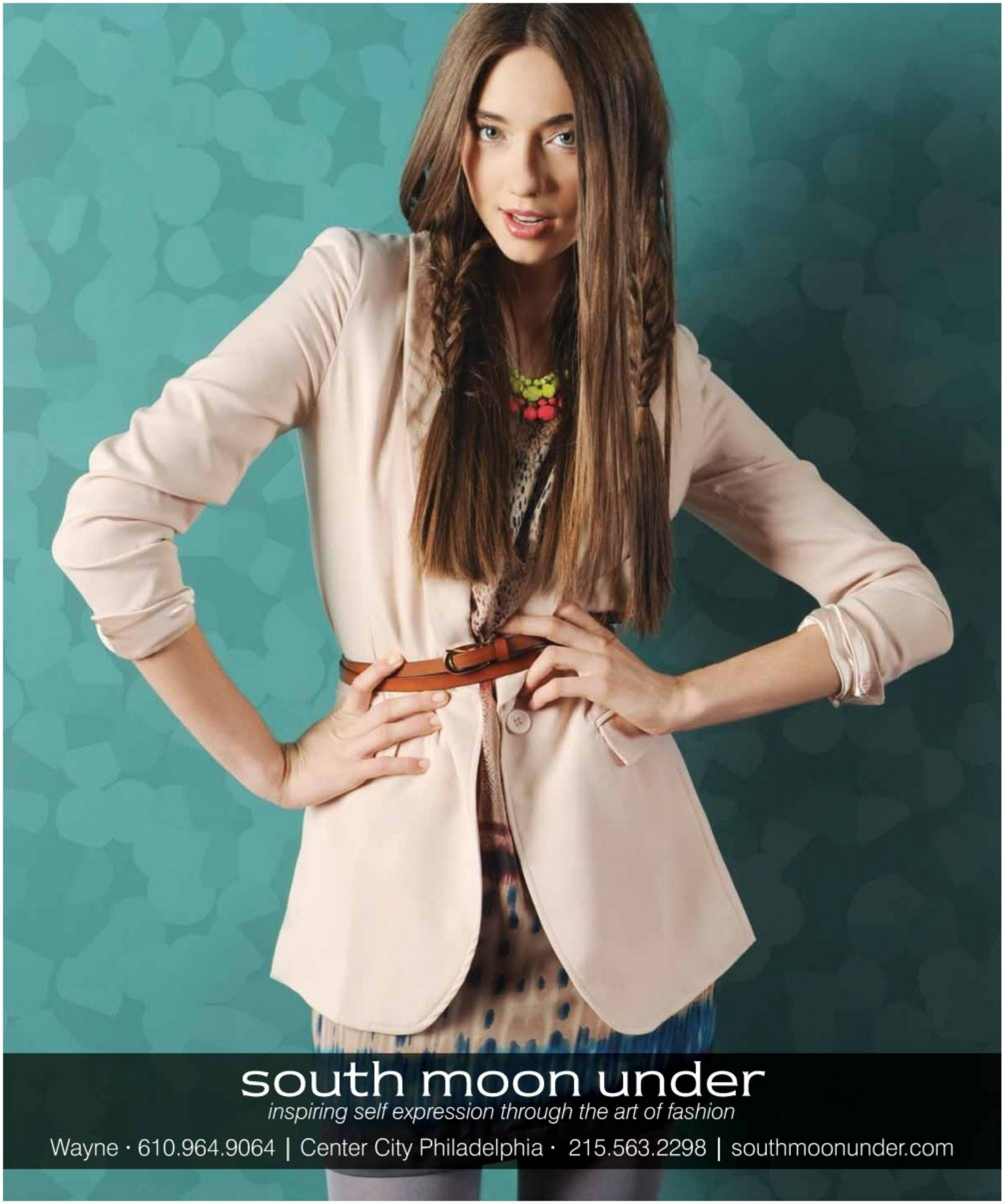
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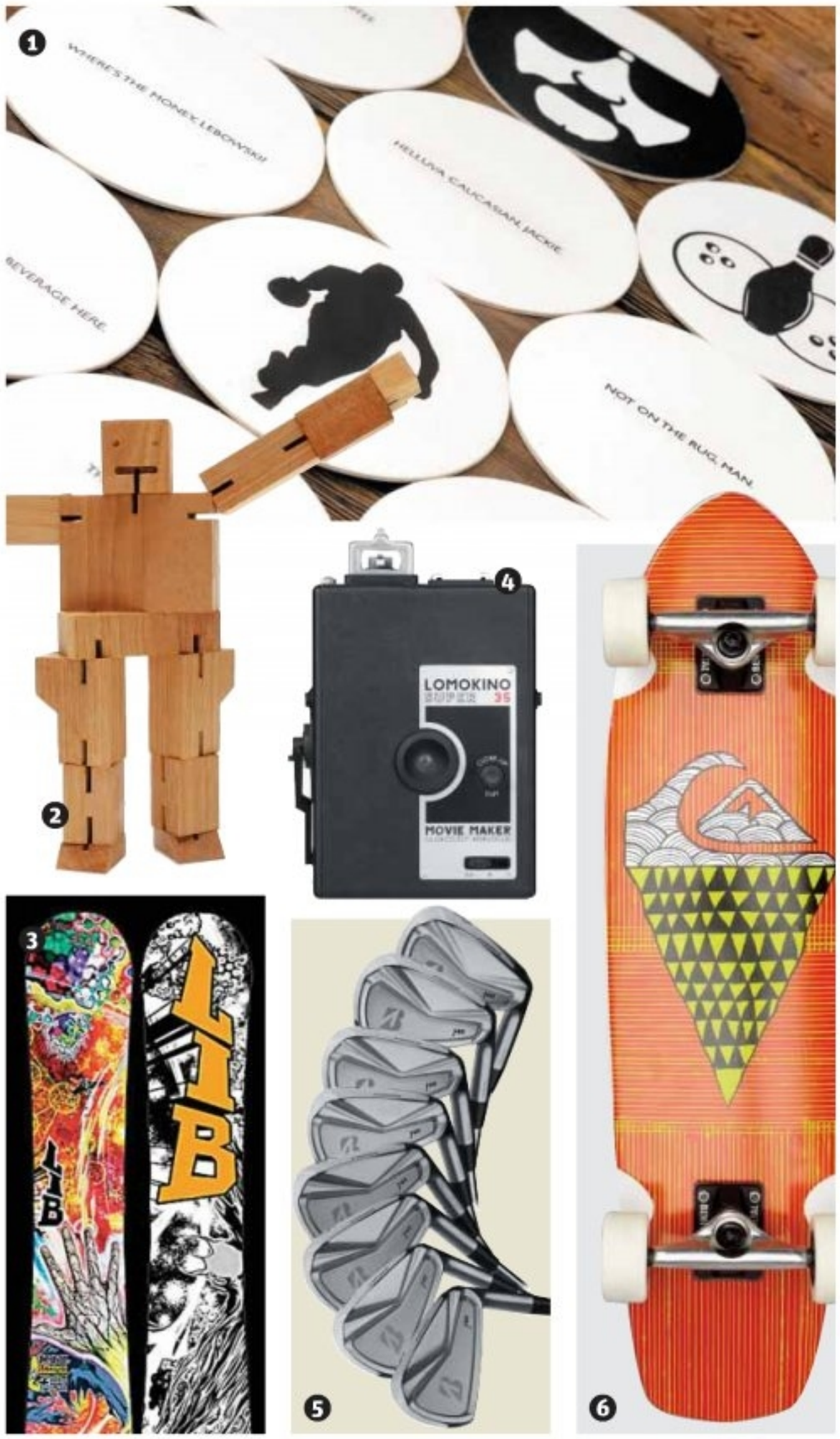
gift guide



Gifts for him (continued)

1. You can get him to finally use a coaster. **Ruff House Art "Big Lebowski" coasters, $12,** www.ruffhouseart.storenvy.com

2. Bend and fold this wooden toy robot, made from sustainably harvested Cheery wood, to just about any pose — he's impossible to break. **Areaware Cubebot, $25,** http://store.module-r.com

3. He can be king of the hill with his Travis Rice pro series board. **Lib Tech T Rice Pro HorsePower Series, $697,** http://store-us.mervin.com

4. Analogue forever! Lomography's 35mm movie camera lets him shoot old-school videos. **The LomoKino Super 35mm, $79,** www.shop.lomography.com

5. Golf junkies put Bridgestone among the best in quality equipment. **The J40 Cavity Back forged irons** will set him apart from the crowd, with scores to match. **$700-$800,** www.bridgestonegolf.com

6. Playground envy is sure to ensue. **Quicksilver Bolero Cruiser skateboard, $135,** www.quiksilver.com

Read more on page 12

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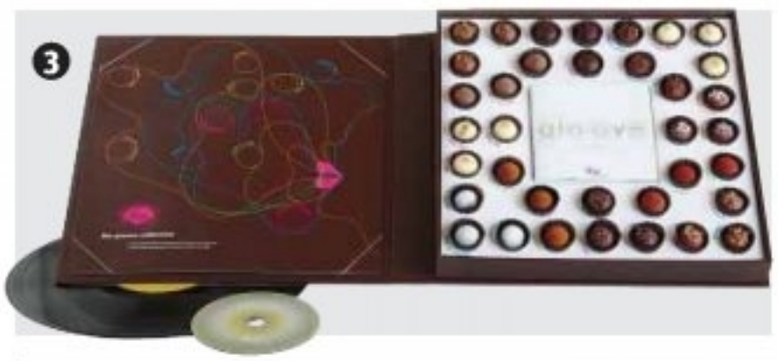
gift guide



Gifts for him (continued)

1. A sleek and ergonomic chef's knife for all the meals he'll be preparing for you. **Zwilling J.A. Henckels 8-inch chef's knife, $120, www.williams-sonoma.com**

2. This sleek water jug removes impurities from his drinking water and even holds its own sitting alongside a fine bottle of whiskey. **Bobble Jug, $30, www.water bobble.com**

3. For your bon vivant: This collection includes classic songs from 1920s blues to modern hip-hop, along with truffles made with the popular ingredient from each era. **Vosges Haut Chocolate Groove Truffle collection, $125, www.vosgeschocolate.com**

4. A hip and warm sleeping bag for when he hightails it to the mountains. **L.L. Bean Flannel-lined Camp Sleeping Bag, $70, www.llbean.com**

5. Everything tastes better with bubbles. **iSi Twist 'N Sparkle Soda Maker, $50, www.twistnsparkle.com**

Books for foodie dudes

Get him in the kitchen, where he belongs

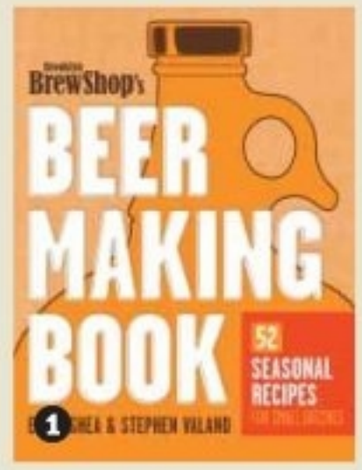
1 He drinks this stuff like it's water, so he might as well learn how to brew a batch. **Brooklyn Brew Shop's Beer Making Book, $14, www.amazon.com**

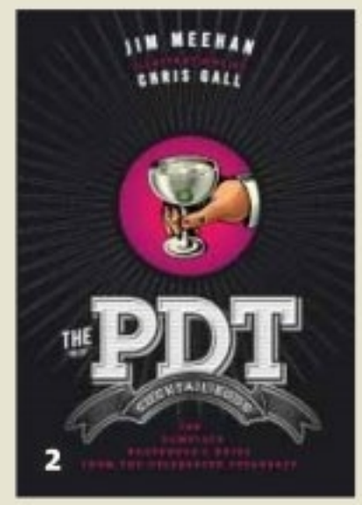
2 His living room just turned into a speakeasy — so long, vodka-cranberry! **The PDT Cocktail Book, $25, www.amazon.com**

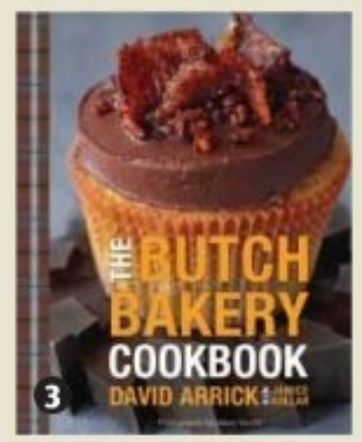
3 Cupcakes with bacon and whiskey! A Devil's Food Cake with chili power! These are his kinds of desserts. **The Butch Bakery Cookbook, $20, www.wiley.com**

TINA CHADHA
tina.chadha@metro.us

WWW.METRO.US/GIFTS
FOR MORE FOODIE SUGGESTIONS







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gift guide

Stocking stuffers

- 1. Animal crayons, $9, www.fredflare.com
- 2. Handcrafted, all-natural soaps, $6 each, www.lovenaturenyc.com
- 3. Old Navy men's socks, $5, www.oldnavy.com
- 4. H.S. Chocolate Co. artisanal candy bars, $6-$7, www.hschocolateco.com
- 5. Burton EST tool, $10, www.burton.com
- 6. Accessory Network gloves, $10, www.walmart.com
- 7. Robot stainless steel loose tea infuser, $9, www.greenfeet.com
- 8. Pop Rocks Candy Cane flavor, $1, www.amazon.com

TINA CHADHA

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WESS MORGAN Fri. Dec 16, 2011 at 7:00pm

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2

The feed ...

▶ Checking in with some of Hollywood's biggest names to see what they've been up to — in their own words, in 140 characters or fewer.

Joan Rivers is looking out for the incarcerated, Martha Stewart doesn't appreciate being corrected, Matthew Perry is unimpressed by transportation and Conan O'Brien is rethinking his online purchases.

▶ **@Joan_Rivers:** Everyone is happy that Conrad Murray was sentenced to four years in prison, except for other inmates suffering from insomnia.

▶ **@MarthaStewart:** twitter is not necessarily the place to worry about grammar,spelling and syntax- i just try to fit my thoughts into 140 characters or less..

▶ **@MatthewPerry:** I'm on a train. Whatever.

▶ **@ConanOBrien:** Not gonna say what I bought, but Amazon just reviewed my order and said, "You might also be interested in therapy."

Perry

THE WORD

Metro's **Dorothy Robinson** shares her take on the world of gossip @dorothyatmetro dorothy.robinson@metro.us

A 'neurotic' Aniston can't win

Oh, hey: In Touch Weekly is reporting that **Jennifer Aniston**, who makes her money by being ultra thin and beautiful, is concerned about gaining weight and not exercising enough. You don't say!

Since the actress quit smoking in hopes of getting pregnant, she "complains nonstop about how fat she is," a source tells In Touch, which makes new beau **Justin Theroux** annoyed. "Justin really can't believe how vain Jennifer is. He will want to go to a restaurant and Jen will say that the food's too fattening or that she can't stay up late because she's getting up at 6 a.m. to go to a workout." They continue: "It's hard [for him] to deal with her neurotic side."

I'd be neurotic too if the entire tabloid press were on high alert for photos of me looking a little bit chunkers so they can scream that I'm pregnant. Justin, let that lady wake up at 6 a.m. to go work out! She's bringing home the bacon with those gams.

Aniston wants to stay this way

More bad life choices for Lindsay Lohan

Well, if this doesn't spell the end for **Lindsay Lohan**, I don't know what does: **Courtney Love**, a woman once so wasted she was photographed having a stranger suck her bare nipple at a Wendy's, is apparently Lindsay Lohan's new sobriety coach.

Yes, in the new issue of Details, Love says she's taken on the role "because nobody else will."

Love says she is using her past to show Lohan that she is making a mistake by using drugs. "I went up to Lindsay's room one time and there was a show on called '101 Celebrity Oops' and I am like, every other one. You know — boobs out, legs everywhere, throwing s— at Madonna, you know, whatever," **Kurt Cobain**'s widow told the magazine. "I'm like, 'Lindsay, look! Drugs are bad!'"

Love, whose daughter recently filed a restraining order against her, claims she's been clean since 2005.

Does anyone need to know how bad of an idea this is? Having Courtney Love as your sobriety coach makes about as much sense has having **Chris Farley** as your weight-loss guru.

▶ Lohan

▶ Love

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WWW.METRO.US/WORD
DOROTHY ROBINSON'S WORD BLOG

Talking points

Cooper's new leading lady?

Bradley Cooper reportedly spent a romantic day in Paris with French actress **Melanie Laurent**, prompting rumors that the two are dating, according to Us Weekly. Cooper, who is fluent in French, lunched on the Boulevard St. Germain with Laurent before heading to the theater for a matinee. The pair then headed back to Cooper's hotel for a private dinner.

▶ Bradley Cooper

▶ Melanie Laurent

Moore tunes out for some 'me' time

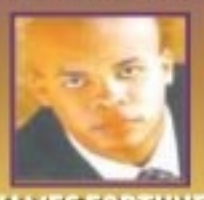
It turns out **Demi Moore** wasn't on hand for youngest daughter **Tallulah**'s recent debutante ball in Paris because she stayed back in L.A. for some "me time." Moore, who recently filed for divorce from **Ashton Kutcher**, was spotted enjoying a dinner with close friend and florist **Eric Butterbaugh** at the Sunset Tower Hotel, according to Us Weekly. Sources note, "[Moore] seemed fine, in a good mood and laughing. She was just with her friend having a nice night out." Another source adds, "It didn't look like a romantic date."

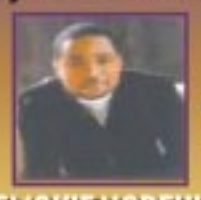
ScarJo loves the bad boys

Scarlett Johansson admits she has a thing for bad boys, so to speak. "I'm attracted to the quality of being adventurous and perhaps a bit mischievous and also questioning authority and being proactive," Johansson, who recently dated **Sean Penn**, tells Cosmopolitan. "If that makes up a quintessential bad boy, then whatever. I'm not at all attracted to meanness or bullying, but I do think conviction is attractive. I mean, really, who doesn't?" One thing she doesn't find attractive, though, is over-sharing: "I don't have a Facebook or a Twitter account," she says. "I don't know how I feel about this idea of, 'Now, I'm eating dinner, and I want everyone to know that I'm having dinner at this time.' That, to me, is a very strange phenomenon. I can't think of anything I'd rather do less than have to continuously share details of my everyday life."

SATURDAY, DEC 17, 2011 at 7:00pm

FRED HAMMOND


JAMES FORTUNE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Transformation Center presents...
A New Way to Celebrate

Mission impossible: Exiting the airport

1: Pamela Anderson unveiled the Vegetarian Icons Postage Sheet as part of the "PETA Goes Postal" campaign at Hollywood Post Office in Hollywood, Calif., on Tuesday.

2: Tom Cruise arrived in Tokyo, Japan, yesterday to promote his upcoming film "Mission: Impossible - Ghost Protocol."

3: Lady Antebellum was honored at the 2011 CMT Artists of the Year celebration at the Bridgestone Arena in Nashville, Tenn., on Tuesday. Other honorees included Brad Paisley, Kenny Chesney, Jason Aldean and Taylor Swift.

4: At the New York City's eighth annual UNICEF Snowflake ball at Cipriani's on Tuesday, Sarah Jessica Parker dressed the part by showing up in a Louis Vuitton dress, looking like a petite speck of snowflake.

5: Sarah McLachlan performed at the 2011 Bryant Park Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony in New York City on Tuesday.

6: Bono and Alicia Keys attended a private screening of the documentary "Keep A Child Alive With Alicia Keys" at Tribeca Grand Hotel in New York City on Tuesday.

7: Michael Buble made an appearance at J&R Music & Computer World for its 40th anniversary celebration in New York City on Tuesday.

8: Alan Cumming attended the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony at The New York Palace in New York City on Tuesday.

1: MICHAEL BUCKNER/GETTY IMAGES
2: JUN SATO/WIREIMAGE
3: RICE DIAMOND/GETTY IMAGES
4: BOB KIM/FILMMAGIC
5: DARIO CANTATORE/GETTY IMAGES
6: JENAL COUNTESS/WIREIMAGE
7: ANDY KROPA/GETTY IMAGES
8: DAVID HECKER/WIREIMAGE

myentertainment

How will the 'Lioness' roar?

The first Winehouse album to be released since her death drops Monday • Where does 'Hidden Treasures' fit in with other hidden treasures of posthumous albums?

PETER MACDIARMID/GETTY IMAGES

Winehouse.

Amy Winehouse's first release since she died in July comes out on Monday. As early as September, word got out that this would not be the revered "third album" that she was reportedly working on at the time of her death, but a compilation of unreleased songs from 2002 through March of this year.

Though a complete version of "Lioness: Hidden Treasures" was not available at press time, enough tracks have surfaced online to paint a relatively clear idea of what to expect. Many of the tunes are covers and reworked versions of previously released songs. They have a surprisingly consistent vibe for such a varied timeline of when they were recorded. But posthumous albums are hardly ever a full picture of an artist's intentions. One can't help but wonder how close to completion they were, according to Amy.

Two tracks surfaced earlier this week: "Between the Cheats" and "Halftime." Aside from the distorted bass that signals the intro of "Cheats," it sounds like a straight-up oldies revival in the tradition of "Beauty School Dropout." Winehouse's voice is slurry like a drunken flirt — sure, she's touching your shirt as she's talking to you, but she's swaying from side to side. That said, she doesn't miss a note. "Halftime" is more likely to be a legacy cementer though. With its smooth Mary J mood and lyrics about how important her chosen profession was to her, this 2002 tune is almost a fitting epitaph.

"The music is a gift," she sings, "and it's stronger than all else, provides me with a bliss."

PAT HEALY
pat.healy@metro.us

Other posthumous musical offerings

▶ Otis Redding 'The Dock of the Bay'

With the title track of this 1968 album, released 76 days after his death, Redding had recorded the only tune of this folky sort in his catalog. It's one of the biggest "what if?" moments in music history.

▶ Janis Joplin 'Pearl'

Released 99 days after her death, this 1971 album is full of those proverbial "what if?" moments, as well as a lot of eerie lyrical moments. It's stinging to hear her sing "I'd trade all of my tomorrows for one single yesterday" in "Me and Bobby McGee."

▶ John Lennon and Yoko Ono 'Milk and Honey'

Lennon was assassinated weeks after he released 1980's "Double Fantasy," an album

that broke a silence of more than five years. This 1983 LP he'd been working on with Yoko Ono was intended to be the follow-up. "Milk and Honey" is not an insult to the Lennon legacy, but listening now, it's very much of its era.

▶ Sublime 'Sublime'

Sublime singer Bradley Nowell died in 1996 (the same year as Tupac, who we didn't profile here because that dude released more albums after he died than when he was alive). Anyway, by the time Nowell died, his band's major label debut was already in the can. It came out two months later.

▶ Michael Jackson 'Michael'

Many close to the King of Pop contend Michael would not deem "Michael" worthy of his royal catalog. Though it's no "Thriller," it's not bad.

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Reasons to visit the movies

1 'The Muppets' The Muppets reunite to save the old studio that was home to the show that brought them fame. New pal, super fan and fellow Muppet Walter helps the gang come together to fight the power.

2 'Arthur Christmas' Just how does Santa get all those presents delivered in one night? With a S.W.A.T. team of elves, of course! "Arthur Christmas" answers all the burning questions you've ever had about Claus.

"The Muppets"

3 'Hugo' Martin Scorsese's venture into family film makes sense when you realize it's primarily about real-life filmmaker Georges Melies and his life spent creating some of the first films ever made.

4 'The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn - Part 1' All eyes are on Mr. and Mrs. Cullen, as mortal Bella and vampire Edward tie the knot and, you know, "break a headboard" — a new euphemism for Twihards everywhere.

5 'Happy Feet Two' The dancing penguins are back with an impressive list of celebrities giving voice to those feisty little folks who are trying to stave off a threat to their home. METRO

TV watch list

'Weed Wars'

REALITY. Harborside Health Center, the nation's largest medicinal cannabis dispensary, is run by a colorful cast of characters — including David Weddingdress, the director of holistic services, who prefers to wear a dress. But this is a serious business with serious consequences. Because federal law doesn't legally recognize the use and sale of marijuana for medical purposes, "at any moment, the federal government could come bursting through our doors and arrest us and prosecute us and do terrible things to our lives," says founder Steve DeAngelo. **Series premiere, 10 p.m., Discovery**

'CMA Country Christmas'

SPECIAL. Sugarland's Jennifer Nettles hosts this holiday special featuring performances by Keith Urban, Martina McBride and more. But we have a feeling that guest Miss Piggy is going to steal the show. **9 p.m., ABC**

'It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia'

COMEDY. The Gang's attempts to catch a showing of the action blockbuster "Thunder Gun Express" before it leaves theaters is thwarted by traffic caused by the visiting president. Maybe they can just catch it on DVD and remake it in the vein of their "Lethal Weapon 5" production. **10 p.m., FX** AMBER RAY

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dating

Reader love notes

SEND US YOUR LOVE NOTES

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- *Baby, when I think about you, I think about love. Thank you for everything! Xoxo, Cindy*
- ***Thanks for 6 great years I love Maria Lamarre***
- *I luv u MJB - Sean*
- ***Bigg Redd, You have my heart and soul! Hammer***
- *My heart Martin - Joe*
- ***Dear Tide, I love you more than anything & I appreciate you. Love, Downey***
- *Me without you is like Pepsi without cans. Pedophiles without vans. Jerseyshore without tans. - Athena Ellis*
- ***Minas, your the 1.***
- *LTS Luv lovin U! JRB*
- ***I love you Nyeem! - Layia***
- *My yummy honey love 4eva Thanks, Dimple*
- ***Da-re Musa! I did, do and will always love u. Miss u Udus'***
- *I love you EZ!!*
- ***I love my tina "diane" green***
- *Dimas Mi Amor I Love U With All My Heart & Soul. Love Erica*
- *Suzanna Loves Mickey.*
- ***To my wonderful wife Patricia R. David. I just want to let you know that I love you and adore you. Don***
- *JL - thx 4 being U. LL*
- ***Allan! <3 your little tomato***
- *Ricky, I tapped into the darkest and shaded part of my mind for your entertainment, for you bring me light. 100 million, billion, trillion times. Loving you this much, Ginger*

Shrink wrap

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RELATIONSHIP EXPERT

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR BIRTH CONTROL?

Justin Bieber was recently accused of fathering a child with a woman he allegedly had a brief sexual encounter with after one of his concerts. The mere thought that this could be true is one "baby" too many for the singer of the hit song by the same name. But it clearly raises the question of who is responsible for using birth control.

Sex happens, that's a fact. Sometimes it's planned, sometimes it's spontaneous, but it should always be something that takes thought and care. There are more forms than ever of birth control out there, so there is really no excuse to let it slide. Being mindful about contraception is a way to protect not only yourself but also your relationship. But who should pay attention, and who should make sure the protection is used?

Some say it is the man's job, others say it's the woman's. I say every person who is going to have sex is responsible for making sure they are putting protection in place. In the ideal world, this would be a joint discussion. But realistically, we have to accept that people get caught up in the moment. If you are sexually active, you owe it to yourself to make sure you are not leaving it up to the other person and that you are always prepared.

Keep in mind, too, that there are times when you and your sexual partner aren't coming from the same place and may have different intentions. Avoiding pregnancy isn't always everyone's top priority. Don't blindly trust that you and your partner are on the same page. Take matters into your own hands.

Who knows? The woman who is accusing Justin of being her baby's father may have wanted it that way. In the end, it is better to have too much protection than too little.

*— Relationship expert **Dr. Jane Greer** is the creator of **"Shrink Wrap"** – national commentary on what we can learn from celebrity relationships – and host of **"Let's Talk Sex"** at **Healthylife.net**. Her book, **"What About Me? Stop Selfishness From Ruining Your Relationship,"** is available nationwide.*

Metro does not endorse opinions of the author, or any opinions expressed on its pages.

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food&drink

▶ The Trestle Inn (339 N. 11th St.) delivers what it promises.

MEREDITH EDLOW/CP+MC

Some whiskey with your go-go?

The infamous Trestle Inn is back in business, and they didn't forget their strip-club roots
What's on the Callowhill corner bar's menu, from comfort food to First Friday after-parties

The nearly 40-year-old sign hanging above the entrance to The Trestle Inn reads: "Whiskey & Go Go." On a recent Saturday night, as two go-go dancers slowly grooved along the walls, that's exactly what the whiskey sour-swilling, dancing patrons crowded into the dimly lit bar's back room got.

A notorious strip club from the early-1970s until 2009, The Trestle reopened in October with a classier, but still seedy, mission to provide '60s- and '70s-inspired drinks, food and entertainment.

"The Trestle has a reputation," says owner Ian Cross. "It's always been slightly mysterious to people walking by. There's a feeling people have come to this corner to cut loose for a very long time, and we want to maintain a bit of that spirit while bringing some of the edge back."

Before the party jumps off later in the night, the bar and dining area offer straightforward comfort foods prepared by former Arrow Swim Club chef Travis Messner, including a pork sandwich, mac 'n' cheese, pigs feet and homemade beef jerky.

"There's a feeling people have come to this corner to cut loose for a very long time."
TRESTLE INN OWNER IAN CROSS

"But it gets funkier and louder later at night," Cross says about the late-night and weekend crowd, which dances to funk, garage, soul and psychedelic music spun by local DJs. Beginning this week, Trestle's hosting a monthly First Friday party for those seeking a dance floor after the art galleries close.

"We love the First Friday scene in the Callowhill area," Cross says. "The whole neighborhood's hopping, and it's much more underground than the Old City scene. We're gonna keep the party going at the Trestle."

ELLIOTT SHARP
letters@metro.us

Drink up

What'll you have?

"We just had to build a new shelf," Cross says of the bar's ever-expanding selection of craft whiskeys, bourbons and ryes, which has jumped to more than 50 bottles since it opened. "We don't have the standard bourbons you'll find at other bars; and unlike the fancy mixology popular nowadays, Trestle offers simple, satisfying cocktails your parents would've enjoyed back in the day."

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food & music

Restaurant news and notes

Mica holiday menu

Sundays through Thursdays
8609 Germantown Ave.
www.micarestaurant.com
In honor of Charles Dickens' 200th birthday, this Chestnut Hill restaurant is serving up special three-course holiday menus ($38 per person): day boat scallops, slow-roasted Christmas goose and a modern twist on Christmas pudding (no figgies, we're happy to report).

Square 1682 wine dinner

Tonight, 7
121 S. 17th St.
Reservations required:
215-563-5008
www.square1682.com
Chef Guillermo Tellez's four-course menu ($55 per person) keeps December nice and warm with dishes such as Indian-spiced lobster bisque and a smoked duck-centric "breakfast for dinner."

METRO

On our playlist

'Christmas Eve for Two'
Local band Summer Fiction's charming little carol is a strange bird in the world of Christmas music. Vaguely sleepy with hints of disappointment thanks to Bill Ricchini's restrained vocals, it's also not too cool to shake some sleigh bells.

Pop it on over the holidays to satisfy cranky great aunts and too-cool younger brothers alike — or save it for after they finally pack up and get out of your house.

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Tom Hill
CGA STAFF WRITER

Every three minutes another person falls behind on credit card debt. It's no wonder, since every major credit card company has nearly doubled the minimum monthly payment on consumers' bills. Federal Regulators forced the change because of their concern about the growing mountain of consumer debt, which stands at $2.17 trillion. Many consumers can only pay the minimum payment, which can take up to 30 years to pay off. Now, relief is in sight for millions of Americans.

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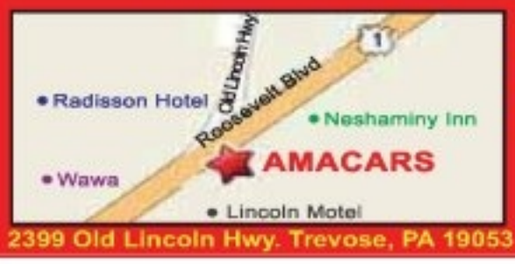

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listings

THE RUNDOWN

Metro's guide to what's happening in Philly this week

GETTY IMAGES

Wiz Khalifa is in town with Snoop Dog.

Music

As I Lay Dying
with Of Mice and Men and The Ghost Inside
Tonight, 6:30
$25, The Troc
www.thetroc.com

Tori Amos
with Thomas Dybdahl
Tonight, 7:30
$40-$60, The Academy of Music
www.kimmelcenter.org

Paper Diamond
with 3LAU and Jesse Marco
Friday, 9 p.m.
$20, Union Transfer
www.utphilly.com

Bigger Lovers and Photon Band
Friday, 8 p.m.
$10, Johnny Brenda's
www.johnnybrendas.com

Ryan Adams
with Jessica Lea Mayfield
Friday, 8 p.m.
SOLD OUT, The Academy of Music
www.kimmelcenter.org

Jukebox the Ghost
with the Spinto Band and White Birds
Saturday, 8:30 p.m.
$12-$14, Union Transfer
www.utphilly.com

Hey Rosetta!
with Ivan & Alyosha
Saturday, 9:15 p.m.
$10, Johnny Brenda's
www.johnnybrendas.com

Bob Seger and the Silver Bullet Band
Saturday, 8 p.m.
$96-$247, The Wells Fargo Center
www.comcasttix.com

Dashboard Confessional
Sunday, 6:30 p.m.
$25, The TLA
www.livenation.com

David Cook
Sunday, 7 p.m.
$33, The Keswick Theatre
www.keswicktheatre.com

Yacht
with Parenthetical Girls
Sunday, 8 p.m.
$12, First Unitarian Church
www.r5productions.com

Wiz Khalifa and Snoop Dog
Tuesday, 8 p.m.
$39, The Electric Factory
www.ticketmaster.com

Dave Hause and Cory Branan
with Turning Violet Violet
Tuesday, 9 p.m.
$10-$12, Johnny Brenda's
www.johnnybrendas.com

Concert

Q102 Jingle Ball

This year's lineup reads like the who's who of people you sing along with in the car (and may or may not want to admit to): Big Time Rush, Kelly Clarkson, LMFAO, Avril Lavigne, David Guetta, Demi Lovato, All Time Low, Joe Jonas, Flo Rida, Cobra Starship, Patrick Stump, Gym Class Heroes, Karmin and JoJo.
Wednesday, 5 p.m.
The Wells Fargo Center, $41-$151
www.comcasttix.com

Shopping

NoLibs Holiday Shopping Spree
Saturday and Sunday
www.artstarphilly.com/nolibs
After last weekend, not even Santa himself could drag us around the Conshohocken Curve and into the abyss of King of Prussia. Keep it local at this neighborhood shopping event, where Northern Liberties stores are teaming up to offer progressive discounts when you make purchases at participating locations.

Arts

Koresh Dance Company: 20 Years
Tonight through Sunday
Suzanne Roberts Theatre
480 S. Lombard St., $25-$35
www.koreshdance.org
The company's anniversary show features excerpts from productions over the past 20 years.

Spanish Harlem Orchestra
Saturday, 8 p.m.
$20-$45, The Annenberg Center
www.annenbergcenter.org
The Grammy-winning ensemble's Christmas program, "Salsa Navidad," adds a little Latin flavor to Christmas classics.

Advertising
To advertise your event, please contact:
Jim McDonald, sales director, 215-717-2689
james.mcdonald@metro.us

First Friday

'Gifted'
Friday, 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.
The Clay Studio, 137-139 N. Second St.
www.theclaystudio.org
The Clay Studio's annual holiday exhibit features handcrafted ceramic giftables. They're also hosting a free holiday ornament workshop.

'StripWorks'
Friday, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.
AxD Gallery, 265 S. 10th St.
axdblog.wordpress.com
On display are etchings of the human form by Larry Wood.

'Place to Place'
Friday,
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
Hudson Beach Glass, 26 S. Strawberry St.
www.hudsonbeachglass.com
Gail Cunningham's new show combines pieces previously shown at Philadelphia Airport, as well as the blueprint-inspired series that came out of them.

Comedy

Adam Carolla ... Hates the Holidays!
Tonight, 8
$30-$44, The Keswick Theatre
www.ticketmaster.com
The comedian kicks off December with a little bit of Scrooge-inspired humor.

CASINO LISTINGS

Atlantic City

Music

311
Friday, 8 p.m.
Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort
$45, 609-449-5150
www.trumptaj.com

Alice Cooper
Friday, 8 p.m.
House of Blues in Showboat
$40-$50, 609-343-5700
www.showboatac.com

The O'Jays
Friday, 9 p.m.

GETTY IMAGES

James Blunt

Harrah's Resort
$40-$65, 609-441-5786
www.harrahsresort.com

Tiesto
Friday, 10 p.m.
Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa
$75, 609-317-1000
www.theborgata.com

"1964" ... The Tribute
Saturday, 8 p.m.
Golden Nugget
$30-$50, 866-746-5336
www.goldennugget.com

James Blunt
Saturday, 9 p.m.
Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa
$55-$65, 609-317-1000

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www.theborgata.com

Comedy

Bill Burr
Friday, 8 p.m. & 11 p.m.
Borgata Hotel Casino & Spa
$35, 609-317-1000
www.theborgata.com

Family

"The Caesars Tribute II: A Salute to the Ladies of the Ice"
Saturday, 7:30 p.m.
Atlantic City Boardwalk Hall
$39-$149, 609-348-7000
www.caesarsac.com
Among the confirmed skaters headlining "The Caesars Tribute II: A Salute to the Ladies of the Ice" will be the current world champion Miki Ando, 2002 Olympic Gold Medalist Sarah Hughes, 1998 Olympic Gold Medalist Tara Lipinski and two-time Olympic Medalist Nancy Kerrigan. The event will air nationally on NBC on New Year's Day.

myletters&games

Letters

letters@metro.us

RE: Veterans and the vote

Mr. Palamaro's point is well taken, but fails to appreciate the reality of our current politics. Republicans and Democrats aren't "bickering" over simple policy. Rather, they can't even agree on the empirical reality everyday Americans are facing. And the GOP is eager to deny the existence of both massive unemployment and even greater income inequality, all while pursuing policies that will make it worse. OWS is the first (and hopefully not the last) manifestation of the collective voice Mr. Palamaro is calling for.

JOSEPH CONNELL, VIA EMAIL

RE: Thank you Occupy Wall St.

Your opinion — to thank the malcontent parasites protesting their inability to carve out a life for themselves — got my attention. I notice you don't thank our forefathers for their sacrifices in creating this country. You don't thank the men and women in the military who risk their lives so that you may have the freedom to express your beliefs, nor the police or firefighters who ensure we can continue to live in a civilized community. You should have thanked the people who gave you a job where the most dangerous thing you have to worry about is a paper cut. I'm thanking my Cockatoo for his perfect aim. As soon as I relined his cage, he left a large deposit on your "opinion."

TIM FAULKNER, VIA EMAIL

Average Joe of the Year

I do have a lot of recommendees for the "Man and Woman of the year 2011," but they are already famous and these names need not be recognized further. Instead, I recommend the category "Ordinary man/woman on the street." I, for instance, propose myself as the "Man of the Year 2011." This is my most opportune time to thank you in public for the unselfish contribution that Metro has freely given to men and women on the street, especially in these hard economic times.

DAN M. VENZON, VIA EMAIL

Black Friday or Vendredi Noir?

The holiday shopping numbers are wrong. Economic analysts will not tell us that the results include millions of foreign tourists who come here to do what everybody else is doing: chase after bargains.

WILLY MACHAN, VIA EMAIL

E-mail your letters: **letters@metro.us**

Keep them as brief as possible, preferably under 100 words. Metro reserves the right to edit all letters. Please include your name and contact information.

Horoscope

♐ Sagittarius **Nov. 23-Dec. 21.** You're starting a new cycle, which will continue for some time and could be profitable if you play your cards right. It's a spotty trend, so be able to recognize your good days.

♑ Capricorn **Dec. 22-Jan. 19.** This is likely to be a favorable day for you where new adventures or enterprises are concerned. It'll be especially so for anything that you'll have a hand in bringing about.

♒ Aquarius **Jan. 20-Feb. 19.** Something that was financially fortunate for you previously could be so again. Don't change anything that worked well the first time.

♓ Pisces Feb. **20-March 20.** A couple of friends could play more prominent roles in your affairs than they have done in the past. Each party could be lucky for the other.

♈ Aries **March 21-April 19.** One of your greatest assets is your ability to derive benefits or advantages from shifting circumstances. Be as supple as a reed in the wind.

♉ Taurus **April 20-May 20.** If at all possible, devote some time to an exciting, fresh interest that has captured your fancy. This new pastime could have greater ramifications for your life than you think.

♊ Gemini **May 21-June 20.** Couple your will to win with your imagination, and visualize the type of results you hope to achieve — along with some changes you would like to make. They're doable.

♋ Cancer **June 21-July 22.** Your ability to absorb and catalog all types of new information is better than usual at this time. Strive to utilize this gift to your best advantage.

♌ Leo **July 23-Aug. 22.** Chances are you'll be luckier than usual, but not necessarily in ways of your choosing. Even though benefits will be influenced by what you can't control, you'll like what occurs.

♍ Virgo **Aug. 23-Sept. 22.** Team up with others, because fortuitous developments can be generated through partnerships, especially those springing from a social involvement.

♎ Libra **Sept. 23-Oct. 23.** An adverse situation that you've been working at changing for the better is likely to take that turn at last. Instead of producing negatives, it could bring you something nice.

♏ Scorpio **Oct. 24-Nov. 22.** A friend of yours is likely to be the purveyor of some good news, but neither you nor your pal will be aware of this until you talk. It could be a surprise to both of you when you do. BERNICE BEDE OSOL

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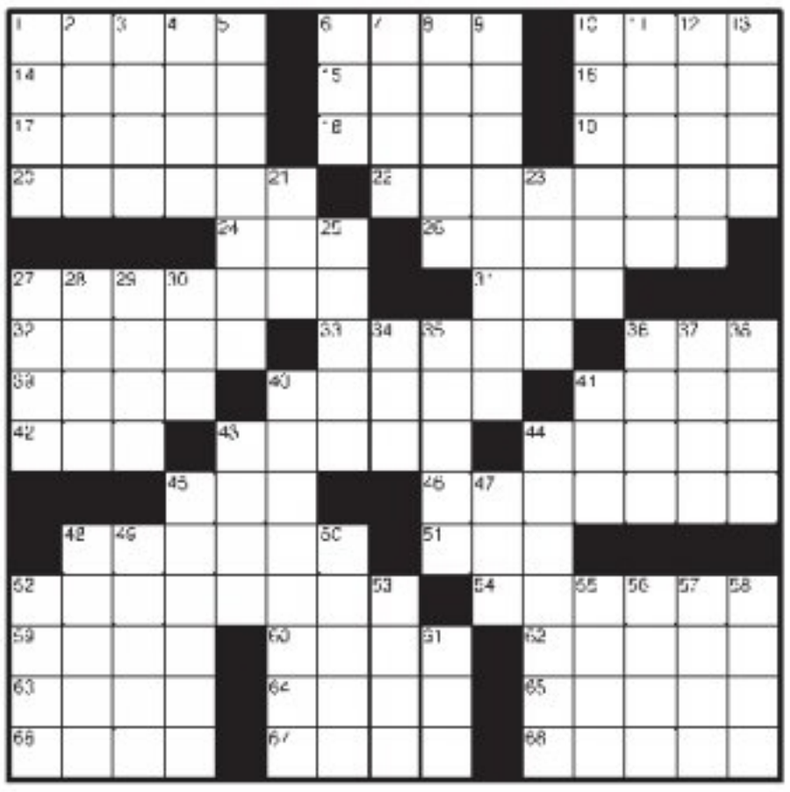
6 Help in wrongdoing
10 Weigh, as evidence
14 Sidestep
15 Hunter's quarry
16 Sandwich cookie
17 Goods on board
18 Mr. Trebek
19 Theta follower
20 Grants funds
22 Practiced medicine
24 Here, in Le Havre
26 Force
27 Vast
31 — Dawn Chong
32 Go — (cooperate)
33 Caravan halts
36 Excavate
39 Yothers or Brown
40 High mountains
41 Nostalgic time
42 Brillo rival
43 Ruminated
44 Earthling
45 Okra morsel
46 Shellfish
48 Very hot
51 Party fabric
52 Brought up
54 Big name in soul
59 Sacred bird of Egypt
60 Folksinger Burl —
62 Land measures
63 Thicken, as cream
64 Genial
65 Hatchling
66 Lotto kin
67 Candle's light
68 Weirdos

Down
1 Marathoner's concern
2 John, in Russia
3 Computer whiz
4 Thus
5 Packing away
6 Famous Khan
7 "— Ha'i"
8 Revise
9 Smooth and rough
10 Evening gala
11 Hair curlers
12 Gala events
13 Insect eater
21 Chem. or biol.
23 Distinct periods
25 Screen symbols
27 Equine fodder
28 Ad award
29 Billions of years
30 Collected sayings
34 Lemon cooler
35 Four-door model
36 Major- — (headwaiter)
37 Oil exporter
38 Trait determinant
40 Checking for fraud
41 Mongkut portrayer
43 New day, briefly
44 Cafe amenity
45 On the double
47 Maude portrayer
48 Common furnishing
49 Winter constellation
50 Prepare eggs
52 — of the litter
53 Retro art style
55 Yodeler's answer
56 Small combo
57 Drat!
58 Grills, maybe
61 Apply a patch



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		3					5	9

SUDOKU **LEVEL: EASY**

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			3	2			9	
	3	1			7	4		6
9								1
7		4	1			8	5	
	1			6	3			
		6	4					
2	4			7			1	

SUDOKU **LEVEL: HARD**

How to play Sudoku: Fill in the grid so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

SUDOKU SOLUTIONS: **WWW.METRO.US/PUZZLES**

Solution to Wednesday's crossword

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Eagles expect to compete, finish season out strong

Birds taking it one game at a time as schedule winds down ● Team not mathematically eliminated from playoff contention ● Vick, Maclin both out tonight against Seattle

Regrets?

These Eagles have had a few. But that won't stop them from giving their all during these final five games. The first step is to get a win tonight. And they'll have to do it without QB Mike Vick and WR Jeremy Maclin (Vince Young and Riley Cooper will start).

"Everybody's going to go out there and play hard," said linebacker Jamar Chaney.

"It doesn't matter if you're 1-15 or 15-0, you're going to go out there and play your hardest if you're a true competitor," added center Jason Kelce.

Despite all the gloom and doom circling them, the Eagles aren't mathematically eliminated from the postseason party. If they can figure things out, and the Giants and the Cowboys both slip, then there is a chance.

"I think there are still some things that can happen where we can go to the playoffs if we win out," Kelce said. METRO

3 THINGS TO WATCH

Eagles at Seahawks, tonight (8:20) at CenturyLink Field, Seattle, Wash.
TV: NFL Network/PHL 17 Radio: 94.1 FM, SIRIUS 92
Keys to the game:

1 Packing it in?
The players talk a good game, saying that they're going to keep playing hard and that anything can happen.

But what happens if they get down big early? Will they continue to fight or look at the scoreboard — and standings — and pack it in. Several Eagles, including star back LeSean McCoy (toe), are nursing injuries anyway. This might be the biggest test of this team's heart.

2 Running men.
Statistically, the Eagles rank right in the middle of the pack (18th, at 110.3 yards per game) against the run this season.

Of course, anyone who has been following the Eagles knows the linebackers have been suspect, and Seattle's Marshawn Lynch has 900 yards and seven TDs. And teams will run. Remember, the Patriots ran the ball 36 times last week despite only gaining 2.9 yards per carry.

3 Andy's mood.
As the season goes on — and the losses pile up — Andy Reid's attitude becomes less and less agreeable with the media.

With talk radio lines heating up and fans calling for his dismissal, Reid is firmly on the hot seat and will have to answer a slew of questions about his future, if the Birds lose. Expect short answers and grim stares. And a new sign in front of the NovaCare Complex.

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▶ Reid might not be this happy ever again.

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▶ Collins is anxious to get back to coaching. The Sixers hope to hold workouts on Dec. 9.

Sixers, coaches expecting real happy reunion

With NBA lockout set to be over, players allowed to return to practice facility Doors opened early today

Prior to the 1998 lockout, Shawn Kemp was listed at 246 pounds. When the owners and players reached an agreement in time for a 50-game season, Kemp had ballooned to 315.

While no Sixer is a real candidate to have put on that kind of tonnage, the coaching staff is about to find out for sure. At 12:01 a.m. this morning, the doors to the team's practice facility were officially opened to the players. Coach Doug Collins said he's confident his guys kept themselves in good shape since he last saw them more than seven months ago.

"I am. And the reason I am is because we have young guys who love to play," Collins said yesterday.

The team can't conduct formal workouts until the new CBA becomes official (likely on Dec. 9), but the players will start trickling in to play pickup and get treatment from the training staff. All the Sixers' players that were overseas are expected back within the next week.

"I know we miss coaching them. I miss being around them," Collins said. "I miss my players and I can't wait to see them and get back on the floor with them."

ADAM LEVITAN
alevitan@metro.us

Put backs

Sixers officials addressed the media yesterday. Here's some of the highlights:

- Team president **Rod Thorn** said he plans on matching any "reasonable" offer for restricted free agent **Thaddeus Young**.
- Coach **Doug Collins** said he's been keeping tabs on first-round pick **Nikola Vucevic**'s progress while playing in Montenegro. "I loved him. He was smart, loves to play, has a really good feel for the game."
- To ease players back, the Sixers won't hold back-to-back "two-a-day" practices in training camp.
- The 66-game schedule is expected to be released later this week. Look for the Sixers to open Dec. 26.

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▶ Young

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Fantasy sports
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Don't be Karl Malone or Marv Levy. We all know that second place is the first loser, especially in fantasy leagues.

If you're drooling over your dominant regular-season record and not prepping for the playoffs, you're making a big mistake. Now is the time to add defenses, protect yourself with handcuffs and examine matchups.

Here are teams with the worst schedules for fantasy production in Weeks 15 and 16.

Sorry, St. Louis

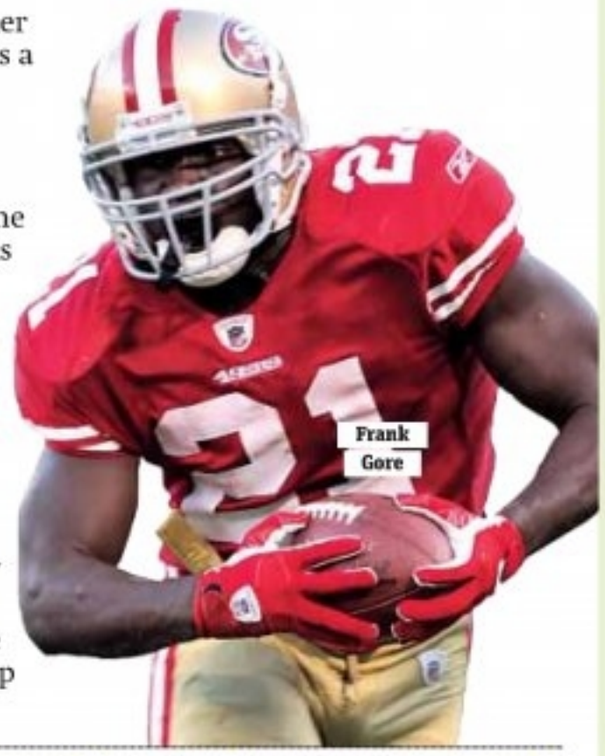
The Rams host the Bengals in Week 15 and then travel to Pittsburgh in Week 16. Yikes. Owners riding **Steven Jackson** need to explore other options and **Brandon Lloyd** deserves a downgrade as well.

Frankly, trouble

Frank Gore's role in the passing game has been reduced to nil. His burst is also gone. And in the fantasy playoffs, he'll face the dominant run defenses of the Steelers and Seahawks. Also, **Vernon Davis** will be asked to block more than catch in these spots.

Lynch mob

Marshawn Lynch's surprising run of exceptional play is about to end. He has no chance in Chicago come Week 15 and he'll get swallowed up by the Niners in Week 16.



Plus schedules

The worst matchups in the fantasy playoffs are to the left. Here are the best matchups:

1 **Texans** — The NFL's best running game faces the Panthers and Colts. Ben Tate will be a sneaky play in these potential blowouts.

2 **Bengals** — Even the plodding Cedric Benson will be able to exploit the Rams' historically bad run defense and then he gets the Cardinals.

3 **Cowboys** — Not only do the Bucs and Eagles have poor defenses, but Dallas gets plus weather in both spots.

NFL news

Yates' poem

▶ **T.J. Yates** is now the Texans' starting QB. Although that sounds bad, Yates isn't nearly as inept as Tyler Palko. Yates started 44 games for UNC, has ideal size and was a favorite of draftniks. Andre Johnson remains a must-start.

Top NFL pickups

Donald Brown

▶ **RB, Colts**
Right now, Brown is simply a better player than Joseph Addai. He'll lead Indy in carries going forward.

Riley Cooper

▶ **WR, Eagles**
Jeremy Maclin remains sidelined. Vince Young has targeted Cooper 16 times in the last two games.

Maurice Morris

▶ **RB, Lions**
With Kevin Smith (ankle) in doubt, Morris will get plenty of checkdowns once again this week.

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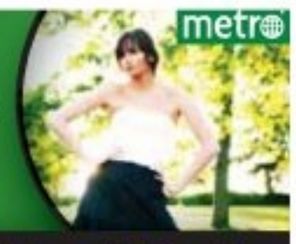

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